THE PACIFIC

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GOLD AND IRON.

Gold and iron are good
To buy iron and gold;
All earth's fleece and food
For their like are sold.
Hinted Merlin wise,
Proved Napoleon great,
Fear, Craft, and Avarice
Cannot rear a State.

AN EVENING WITH WASHINGTON GLADDEN.

Not less than a thousand people listened to Washington Gladden in the First Congregational Church of Oakland, Wednesday evening of last week.

In his introductory remarks Dr. Gladden said that he was glad to be the bearer of assurance of cordial sympathy and affection from the East to stricken California, though such assurance was scarcely needed when train after train had been rolling westward for many days loaded with gifts to meet the needs which the great calamity had thrust upon us. It was difficult, he continued, to realize the terror and tragedy of our late visitation, though they of the East had tried to do so, and it is difficult for us, on the other hand, he said, to realize the fraternity manifested everywhere. Never in his life had he seen anything like it. As to our Congregational brethren the word was, "They are waiting to hear definitely of your needs. You can depend on them."

After these opening remarks, Dr. Gladden proceeded to consider some of the perplexing questions which Congregationalists are facing.

The new conception of solidarity does not, in his judgment, weaken in the least the autonomy of the local church. There is arising no purpose to rule one another, but more of a purpose to serve one another.

Sketching the movement for the union of Congregationalists, United Brethren and Methodist Protestants, he said, "That the outlook seemed dubious at first, but that some power not ourselves, drew into fellowship, and there came the conviction, 'there must be a way, and by the grace of God we will find it.'"

Looking backward and forward, Dr. Gladden says that with patience and sweet reasonableness the thing can be done. "None will lose anything essential. Much in many ways will be gained." "God will not forsake us if we go forward, nor will He forgive us if we go backward."

There is reason for sober reflection, said Dr. Gladden, as we study Congregationalism from the Year Book. We are not prospering. Our growth is slow. As to benevolence, our ability is fifty per cent greater than it was fifteen years ago, but contributions show an actual loss.

There is something wrong, and the obligation is upon us to find out what it is and a remedy.

The Home Missionary call, it was shown, has not lost its cogency. Both in city and country there are great problems, as of old. And a loud call of God comes as to the neglected races. There was never a time when the negro needed the helping hand and heart more than he needs them to-day. A line of separation has been drawn in the South, and the higher things of life are forbidden to the black man there. It is a national calamity that it should be so. But so the South decrees, and we cannot help it. More imperative, therefore, the training that can be given them through the great missionary agencies.

For missionary work of all kinds, home and foreign, said Dr. Gladden, the opportunity is large and the call is louder than ever before. But though the call of Christ and of humanity is sounding in our ears as never before, yet our gifts are falling off.

In way of explanation it was said, in substance: Our country has been growing rich of late and has been losing hold of higher claims and interests. The spirit of the last fifteen years has not been conducive to philanthropy.

The remedy suggested was the securing of a better and wider co-operation on the part of the churches and the membership. A conscientiousness and consecration are demanded that are now conspicuously and extensively absent. People must be brought to realize that the things of the spirit are worth more than all that money can buy.

Our present-day evangelism was pronounced a failure by Dr. Gladden. The man in the street has shown no disposition to come in and "be as good as we are." There is social stratification and alienation. In many instances churches and their equipment are too ornate and costly, and many people feel that there is no place for them. They can't go to the rich church, and so they don't go at all. Going a little deeper, Dr. Gladden said: "If we are to appeal to the luxurious, we must have these things; and to have them, we must very often take the rich man's side. So the impression is abroad that the church favors the rich; and late disclosures show that men of graft and fraud have been prominent in the churches." It would be a grievous slander, said the speaker, to say that all are of this kind; but there are enough of the other kind to adapt the administrations of the churches to the richer classes.

In the line of remedy the thought was: The churches must get down and live with the common people. The members must go themselves and not send evangelists or Bible readers. The boulevard people must make their church on the side streets. They will not need to go so far to do this as they go now to hear the popular preacher. There must be a large number of churches in which caste will be burned out by the consuming fires of love. There must be no expensive churches where the common people will feel that they can not go. The cost of maintenance must be low so that the people will feel that they are doing their share—that they are not being ministered to but are ministering.

Utopian, is it asked Dr. Gladden. This will be in the millennium, you say. Well, let us not be too much afraid of the millennium. I should like to have a large installment of it before the dawn of another winter.

In conclusion, the declaration was that such churches would have no difficulty in reaching the masses; that they would be good for rich and poor, and that which they indicate would be nothing other than the kingdom of heaven described in the Sermon on the Mount. Nothing else will save the church or nation. Christ's way is the only way to organize churches and administer society.

NOTES.

Some letters mailed us a few days before and some a few days after the 18th of April were received Monday of this week. Remember to have the address 2716 Hilegass avenue, Berkeley.

It was announced by the pastor of our church at San Jose last Sunday that $300 was needed to repair the damage done to the church building by the earthquake, and that subscriptions for that amount would be taken. In a few minutes $400 was subscribed.

A meeting of the members of the Third Church of San Francisco was held last week, and the conclusion arrived at was in effect that the proper thing for the church to do is to rebuild. The plan seems to be to erect, at a cost of about $15,000, the lower part of a house of worship, which can be enlarged by the addition of another story as soon as needs and circumstances will allow.

San Francisco isn't troubled much, if any, just now, with labor agitations. But the earthquake has not shaken to pieces these problems; nor has it burned them up. They will emerge from the ruins. According to press dispatches, Chicago was the center, a few days ago, of a unique labor boycott, or of a plan for one. Workingmen were forbidden, by the unions with which they were connected, to attend revival services conducted by Bishop McCabe and other Methodists, because of the action of the Methodist Book Concern with reference to union labor, that institution having declared for the open shop. Here is involved something which some of the people who are condemning the churches for alienating the workingmen do not seem to be taking into consideration. The open shop idea, in our opinion, must prevail unless employers intend to surrender everything to the labor unions. It is high time to ask the question whether it is not better to alienate some of the workingmen than to allow every industry to be bound hand and foot by their dictation. Does not this action in Chicago indicate that some men will not have anything to do with the churches if they cannot have their own way therein?

It is gratifying, of course, to The Pacific to see the carefulness with which those who have the matter to deal with go about the consideration and settlement of the questions relating to the locating of the Chinese who were burned out in San Francisco. There was an element which thought and asserted at first that the Chinese would locate wherever some of the wiseacres wanted them to locate. But the Chinese knew what property rights were theirs, and proceeded to assert themselves. Men of affairs saw that business interests were threatened, that San Francisco was in danger of losing the large trade with China which had been coming to this port, and the right drift was soon given to the consideration of the question, and in the rebuilding of San Francisco the Chinese who are interested therein are to be treated as other people are treated. Perhaps there are persons hereabouts who will learn now to accord to all Chinese better treatment than has been accorded them in the past. The Chinese are everywhere coming to a knowledge of the fact that they have rights, and are preparing to assert themselves to see that they actually get them.

A great object lesson on the saloon has been given not only to California and the Pacific coast during the last three weeks, but to the whole country. San Francisco has been a city almost without crime. The testimony of the daily papers and of people in general is that this is due to the fact that the saloons have been closed. That it is due to this is indisputable. No one, not even a saloonist, has been foolish enough to attempt to deny it when the statement has been made again and again on all sides. It is something which should be remembered, especially by all who have been indifferent to the liquor traffic. When the time comes for it there should be an advanced step in San Francisco on the saloon question. Let us have at least a license high enough to shut up forever a large number of the many thousands that have so long cursed our city. And may this be but a step toward such action as will sometime do away with the accursed traffic entirely! We can well spare the saloon from San Francisco and from all our land. It is visionary to expect it, says some reader. Perhaps it is; but it is just as visionary to expect God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven; and yet that is one of the things for which Christ taught the first disciples to pray.

Among the persons whose acquaintance the present writer had the pleasure of forming soon after taking charge of The Pacific in 1897, was that of Dr. W. F. Southard of San Francisco. Dr. Southard has been for many years a leading specialist in the city—treating diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. It was he who was instrumental, a few years ago, in saving the eye of the Rev. R. H. Sink of Stockton, when it had been severely injured in a painful accident. Other leading occulists in San Francisco were of the opinion that the eye could not be saved. Dr. Southard thought that it could be, and saved it. Burned out in the Starr King building, the Doctor has located temporarily at 1914 Pine street, San Francisco. His son, Dr. C. O. Southard, who has been associated with him for the last four or five years, has opened an office over the drug store on the corner of Dwight Way and Shattuck avenue in Berkeley.

It has been said that the experiences of the last few weeks will make men of all classes and positions in life more sympathetic, more considerate of one another's interests, more tender. It is to be hoped that it will so turn out. Undoubtedly it will in many cases; but people are slow to learn. Pharaoh wouldn't let the children of Israel go until plague after plague had come upon him and his people. One needs only to dip into business now in these days after our earthquake and fire to encounter much of the same hard selfishness that was met with so widely theretofore. No sooner had business started up than men who had shown some heart for a time turned to the old ways. Already, even among professing Christians, have we seen that which has brought to mind the old expression, "Every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost." We all need to pray the prayer:

"Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget; lest we forget."

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PACIFIC.

Two letters from the East came to hand a few days ago, from which the editor of The Pacific wishes to quote, not because there is personal reference therein(we wish that could be omitted), but for the reason that it is hoped that they may show to some of our Coast people the estimate which is placed on our denominational paper on the Coast, and may lead to a more vital interest in it, so that it may be better enabled to go on and do the work which it is called to do. For some time we have felt that there is no denominational interest on the Ccast that has been so neglected as the Pacific has been. The life has been almost crushed out of it because people have allowed one thing and another to crowd it out of their homes—and this, notwithstanding the affection which very many others have for it. From a Congregationalist, well known all over the United States, Mr. Irving W. Metcalf, of Oberlin, Ohio, there came this to the editor: "I have thought of you often during these days of earthquake and fire, and have read with deep interest your most excellent and enterprising issue of April 26. I want to show my appreciation of the splendid work you are doing for our Congregational churches and for the cause of the Kingdom on the Pacific coast, and I shall be glad to have you use the enclosed check in any way you may think best. You are entirely at liberty to use it in making up any of your personal losses, or you can use it in connection with The Pacific if you think best." The check was a substantial one, and the letter closed with the following paragraph: "I shall look with great interest for future numbers of The Pacific. Your account is the most vivid and readable one that I have read. I wish you would in The Pacific give to us a little more information about the present condition of Jee Gam's work and its special needs, because of the fire."

The other Eastern letter was from a lady in Connecticut, and was in part as follows: "I was made glad at the sight of The Pacific last night. My esteemed cousin, S. S. Smith, kindly subscribed for it for me, and it has been a welcome visitor for several years. I had feared for its fate since the terrible calamity. I hope the Congregational people on the Pacific coast will not allow it to fail, but will continue it as heretofore. I enjoy it very much."

Dr. Henry M. Field writes that he said, in prayer meeting, to the people of the church in Pasadena, of which he is a member, that there were previously the weightiest of reasons why they should take The Pacific, but that the earthquake and the fire had added others.

We are hoping that in some manner the way will open up for us to get the claims of the paper, as they relate to Congregationalism and the church kingdom, before the people, and with good result.

To one who surveys the whole coast and sees conditions everywhere in relation to all our Congregational work, it is not surprising to hear Dr. Gladden say that there is something wrong with Congregationalism. Will we learn the lesson we ought to learn from the earthquake and the fire? Or will we await yet other calamities before we listen to the still small voice that follows always in their wake?

As to The Pacific, let it be added that Congregationalists on the coast would be thoroughly ashamed of themselves if they knew how far short they fell of other denominations in support of their church paper.

We should like to have every reader say to his or her neighbors that what The Pacific wants and needs first, last, and all the time is subscribers. If we do not have subscribers and more of them, the time will come when everything else will be useless.

Our friends can help us some if they feel that the paper is worthy, though people are hard to move when it comes to the question of subscribing for a religious paper. If any one wishes to know how hard it is, try it; if any one wishes to help The Pacific, try it—for surely there will be some success.

FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Dear Pacific:—Our churches and ministers in southern California are moved by a very generous sympathy for our splendid Pacific coast paper in this time of supreme disaster and loss. We admire the energy which is manifest in issuing an edition of reduced size from week to week, and we hope that in due time The Pacific may appear in its wonted form and fullness. To this end we are appealing for subscriptions and such special forms of aid as may be practicable.

We wish for Brother Ferrier and his assistants the best possible success in working out of the present embarrassment into a larger prosperity than ever before enjoyed.

Some notes concerning the progress of our work:— We are glad to say that arrangements for the Pacific Coast Congress, assembling in Los Angeles and vicinity, May 16-23, are very favorably progressing. Committees are hard at work, and the needed preparations are being pushed at every point. We may pray as well as labor that this great occasion result in the quickening of all departments of our Pacific coast church work. Especially is it desirable that the spirit of courage and of faith along all lines of effort be energized.

We have in Kern county a group of churches centering around the city of Bakersfield where the Rev. Edgar R. Fuller has, for some nine or ten years, been the faithful and successful leader. Our other churches of the vicinity are Rosedale and Poso, Rev. L. A. Kirkland, pastor; Panama, Rev. A. W. Thompson; Oil Center, Rev. W. W. Riley; and Kern, Rev. A. A. Doyle.

These pastors and churches have in mind the formation of the Kern County Association, and it is planned to effect this organization soon after the adjournment of the Pacific Coast Congress

A notable instance of enterprise is found in the case of the new church organization at Oil Center. This general locality is an oil-producing section; many companies operating in a region some seven or eight miles in length and from three to five in width. A fine public school building is located at one of the centers, and in this edifice our recently organized church is carrying on a flourishing Sunday School, largely attended Sunday services, and C. E. Society. The evening congregations are sometimes attended by 125 individuals, and the interest is well sustained. A parsonage was erected last year and funds are being gathered for the building of a church edifice. The business of the church is thoroughly organized, and monthly reports are rendered after the prayer meeting. The membership is made up of excellent people who represent world-wide localities and numerous religious denominations. The First Church of Los Angeles adopts this field as its special charge for Home Missionary support, and gifts are stimulated by this arrangement. Our Southern California churches entered upon State self-support on April 1, and at the close of the first month all bills are paid. A spirit of faith and courage everywhere prevails, and both pastors and churches are enthusiastically committed to the pleasant task of making self-support a splendid success.

The Congregational Union of Los Angeles and vicinity is pushing new church work with much vigor and with abounding prospects of success. In the very choice residence district of Westlake Park fine lots have been purchased, and a chapel erected in which a flourishing Sunday School is

already gathered. With his wonted energy, the Rev. F. J. Culver has worked up this enterprise to assured prosperity, and in due time a church organization will be effected. In several localities church work is being developed under the auspices of the Union, and efforts are making to secure an assured monthly income from which the new enterprises may be assisted.

When the needs of our disorganized church work at San Francisco are clearly formulated it is hoped that we shall find a way of giving substantial assistance through the treasury of our City Union.

May our brethren who have been overwhelmed by disaster be comforted and strengthened in spirit, and be generously assisted by the great fellowship of our churches throughout the land. J. L. M.

Los Angeles, May 11.

AMONG THE CHURCHES.

Pasadena First.—Nine persons united with the church at the May communion. The Senior C. E. Society has voted to give up their hearts' desire of wiping out their pledge to the building fund with Dr. Gladden's lecture, and will give the proceeds to the San Francisco relief fund.

Avalon.—Two were received by confession at the first communion in the remodeled church, May 6. No additional funds came to us to make possible a beamed and arched ceiling. Nevertheless, the main auditorium elicits universal approbation. Except in the largest churches a more beautiful one is seldom seen. A handsome carpet has just been laid, this being so necessary that we feel justified in departing from our previous policy of incurring no debt.

A MESSAGE FROM CLOVERDALE.

Dear Mr. Ferrier:—The welcome which we extend to the four pages of The Pacific is most cordial. It is certainly an acceptable messenger. I trust that it has not only been baptized with "fire," but also with the "Spirit;" and that its future is secure.

The need for The Pacific is greater now than ever before. Congregationalism has been a strong agency in the building of California. Opportunities have always been great in this State, but never were they so fraught with significance as at the present hour. Not only cities are to be reconstructed; but the social, moral and religious life of these wrecked communities are to be recast. Should not the Church be especially active in this recasting? Just now the mold is pliable. Every evil agency will be relentless in its attempt to re-establish itself in these shaken cities. Will the Church be outstripped in this struggle? A few months of activity of inactivity will spell the difference between success and failure. May the Church measure up to the opportunity, and prove true to her mission.

Enclosed you will find $15.00, five dollars each from Mrs. J. E. Chalfant, Mrs. S. S. Whipple, and myself; for which please extend out subscriptions one year. We want The Pacific to go on in its good work. A. B. SNIDER.

Cloverdale, Cal., May 11.

"I praise Thee while my days go on;
I love Thee while my days go on;
Through dark and dearth, through fire and frost,
With emptied arms and treasures lost,
I thank Thee while my days go on."

HELPING HANDS AND HEARTS.

It is evident that the friends of The Pacific are desirous of helping it along in its work on the coast. President Ferrin, of Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon, writes: "The second number of The Pacific since the fire has come to hand. These two numbers are pathetic in the bravery which they manifest. I do hope it will be possible for you to get on your feet again. You have not told us yet what we can do to help you. I think you can count on your friends in Oregon to come to the support of the paper."

Mr. E. P. Flint, of Oakland, says in a letter containing a remittance of $5 for his subscription for a year: "I wish it was more. I think I can be one of the one thousand to give $10 each to put the paper on its feet again. Can that suggestion be acted upon? If the Eastern papers would take it up, I think one thousand names could be obtained. May the Master lead in this matter for His glory. My love for The Pacific is stronger than when I worked hard for its financial support in the '50's and '60's."

From the Dalles, Oregon, the following from E. M. Wilson has winged its way: "Dear Pacific:—I cannot refrain from telling you how glad your appearance in my mail receipts made me. I did not mourn over the shrunken size, so glad was I to welcome you in any shape."

A little slip of paper attached to a five-dollar check signed by John L. Maile, of Los Angeles, bears the words, "To help The Pacific."

The Rev. J. R. Knodell says to us that he wants to be counted in as one of the one thousand to give ten dollars, if that plan should be taken up.

And now let this be said: As soon as possible the directors of the Publishing Company of the Pacific will be called together, and some plans will be formulated to put The Pacific in such shape as will assure its continuance. This cannot be for a couple of weeks yet. In the meantime let our friends do whatever their hearts prompt them to do. The Pacific needs just such help and encouragement as has been coming to it since the earthquake and the fire.

As was stated in our editorial in the issue for April, the 26th, we make no attempt to show in what manner or to what extent God was in the earthquake and the fire; we know full well that he has been in the still, small voice that has followed, and for that The Pacific is grateful.

NOTICE.

In the recent earthquake and fire the membership list and cash account of the Congregational Club of San Francisco and vicinity was destroyed, and the members of the club would confer a favor on the officers of the club by each dropping a postal to the secretary, Charles M. Bufford, at 1814 Sutter street, San Francisco, with his name and address upon it, together with a statement, if possible, that he has paid the dues for the current year, if such is the case.

The Rev. Dr. J. H. De Forrest writes from Sendai, Japan, concerning the work for famine relief: "We have collected ourselves for the sufferers over $50,000. Our appeals have been the means of securing through Red Cross and other agencies some $300,000—perhaps $350,000. This is ample to show international sympathy and all Japan is deeply grateful for it. About a half a million are receiving relief now, but public works provide a living for a large number. So we close our committee work by the end of May. We are making no new appeals, only gathering in the streams of aid that our former appeals have excited."